MIDWEST MANUFACTURING/ NORTH FARM

IOWA

EPA ID# IAD069625655

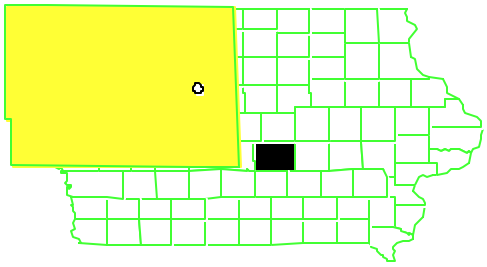
EPA Region 7

City: 2 miles north of Kellogg

County: Jasper County

Other Names: North Farm Smith-Jones

08/27/2002



SITE DESCRIPTION

The Midwest Manufacturing/North Farm site consists of two areas: North Farm, which is an unlined disposal cell located 2 miles from the plant; and Midwest Manufacturing, which is the plant facility. The two areas were combined into the same site because they contain the same types of wastes and affect the same population. From 1973 to 1981, under Smith-Jones ownership, the plant was engaged in electroplating special-order stamped metal pieces, a process that involved using various heavy metals such as nickel, zinc, and cadmium. Prior to a wastewater treatment plant being brought on line in 1977, the electroplating waste from the plant was discharged directly into the North Skunk River. From 1977 to 1978, the sludge produced by this process was disposed of in an unlined cell at the North Farm area. From 1979 to 1981, trenches at the Midwest Manufacturing area near the plant received the sludge produced by the treatment process. In 1982, the EPA collected sludge samples from the disposal trenches at both areas. Cadmium was the only metal which was found to be present in the soils above naturally- occurring levels. No elevated metals were present in soil samples taken from the North Skunk River downgradient from the plant. A ground water sample collected from Well #1 was found to contain levels of zinc less than the proposed level for lifetime exposure. During the EPA's 1987 site visit, a man-made drainage ditch was discovered to the west of the disposal trench at the plant. The sediments in this ditch were covered with a black, oily substance that had a petroleum odor. Stressed vegetation and an oily substance floating on top of the water were observed in a marshy area located on the western end of the plant property. In a 1989 site visit, it was noted that the drainage ditch had been covered and a plastic drain pipe had been placed in the bottom of the ditch. The plant currently manufactures high-speed flywheel ring gears and assemblies for automobiles. Approximately 700 people depend on wells located within 3 miles of the site for their drinking water supply.

Site Responsibility:

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

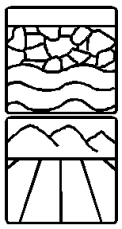
NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 09/18/1985

Final Date: 06/10/1986

Deleted Date:

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS



During sampling in 1982, the Midwest Plant city well #1 showed elevated levels of zinc from the former waste disposal activities. Ground water samples from plant site monitoring wells found elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as vinyl chloride, trichloroethylene, and dichlorothylene and the heavy metals cadmium and nickel. Surface soils at both areas contain elevated levels of heavy metals. Adverse health effects could result from ingesting vegetables grown on contaminated soils or watered with contaminated ground water. Ingesting contaminated ground water may pose a health risk to area residents.

CLEANUP APPROACH

Response Action Status

Midwest Manufacturing Area: In 1990, the EPA concluded an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination in the area. The final cleanup remedy, selected in 1991, included installing a ground water extraction and treatment system and capping of the plant site disposal trench. The EPA conducted a pump test in preparation for the cleanup design and determined that the aquifer was less permeable than previous data indicated, which lengthens the cleanup time and increases site cleanup costs. Subsequently in 1993, the EPA amended the remedy to include deed restrictions, installing ground water monitoring wells and perimeter fencing, and performing regular ground water sampling of both monitoring wells and supply wells located within a 1-mile radius of the plant site. Design of the amended remedy was completed in early 1995. In 1995, potentially responsible parties installed one ground water monitoring well. Deed restrictions have been placed on the property. Data from quarterly monitoring of selected monitoring and city supply wells are used to evaluate the protectiveness of the remedy. In 1998, EPA

reduced the sampling frequency from quarterly to semi-annually for the selected site monitoring wells. EPA eliminated the need for monitoring the City supply wells. Semi-annual ground water monitoring continues. The first five-year review report was completed in November, 2000, and the next five-year review report will be completed in November, 2005.

North Farm Area: In 1988, the EPA concluded a study into the nature and extent of contamination of the area. The 1988 remedy included removal of soils containing cadmium above the concentration of 13 mg/kg. In 1993, the EPA re-evaluated risk data and determined that the site, in its present condition, poses no current risk to human health and the environment. Future risks can be prevented by using institutional controls that prohibit certain future land use, such as vegetable gardening, and prevent the installation of water supply wells. EPA amended the remedy to include deed restrictions and ground water monitoring of the three existing monitoring wells. Design of the cleanup was completed in mid-1995. Cleanup activities began in 1995 with deed restrictions placed on the property. Ground water monitoring began in December, 1995. In 1998, EPA terminated all future monitoring requirements based upon the analytical results. The PRPs abandoned these wells according to IDNR's procedures in the fall of 1998.

Site Facts: In December 1994, EPA and Smith and Jones, Inc., signed a Consent Decree in which the company agreed to conduct all future site response activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS

The remedy has been implemented and monitored for both areas since December, 1995. In 1998, EPA determined no further monitoring was needed for several wells and abandoned those selected wells. A five-year review conducted in November, 2000, found the remedy at both areas is protective. Successful completion of the work at the North Farm area allowed monitoring activities to be terminated. Institutional controls at both areas remain and fencing surrounding the manufacturing disposal area provides an effective barrier to restrict access to any remaining site contaminants.

SITE REPOSITORY

Superfund Records Center
901 N. 5th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
(913)551-4038

REGIONAL CONTACTS

SITE MANAGER:	Diane Easley
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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR:	Beckie Himes
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STATE CONTACT:	Bob Drustrup
PHONE NUMBER:	(515) 281-8900

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

STATE:	IA
	07A1
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	03
EPA ORGANIZATION:	SFD-SUPR/IANE

MODIFICATIONS